

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Steinhorst, et al.  
Serial No: 10/609,332  
Date Filed: June 26, 2003  
Confirmation No. 7931  
Group Art Unit: 2613  
Title: *Method and System for Upgrading a Fiber Optics Network*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

In response to the final Office Action mailed August 14, 2006 (the "Office Action"), Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following Amendments thereto, and the comments as set forth below. Please amend the Application as follows.